

Executive Registry
2-2901

10 OCT 1951

G2-PRT

MEMORANDUM FOR: DIRECTOR, CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

SUBJECT: Establishment of Military Geography Section in the
Brazilian Army

1. Forwarded herewith is letter from the Joint Brazil-U.S. Military Commission dated 24 September 1951 with inclosure, subject as above.
2. Request comments be returned to G-2 for transmittal to the Joint Brazil-U.S. Military Commission.

1 Incl
Joint Brazil-U.S. Military
Commission ltr dtd 24 Sep 51
w/1 incl

(Sgd) John Weckerling
JOHN WECKERLING
Brigadier General, GSC
Deputy AC of S, G-2

ARMY Declass/Release Instructions On File

5 DEC 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2
Department of the Army

SUBJECT: Establishment of Military Geography Section
in the Brazilian Army

REFERENCE: Memorandum to the Director of Central Intelligence
through Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, from Major
General Mullins, U. S. Army, dated 24 September 1951,
with enclosure and endorsement by Deputy Assistant
Chief of Staff, G-2, dated 10 October 1951.

1. Appropriate officers of this Agency have studied the statement, enclosed with the reference memorandum, regarding the establishment of a Military Geography Section within the Brazilian Army General Staff.
2. There is no question but that great value can be attributed to a coordinated geographic approach to the study of areas of interest to national security and potential military operations. The inter-relationships, both in area and function, of physical and human resources and economic activity are important in evaluating an area's capabilities and in planning operations. The extent to which these conditions are limited by environmental factors also would appear to be basic intelligence of direct interest to a Planning Staff.
3. The term "military geography", as applied within U. S. agencies, is understood to be limited generally to the study of those aspects of the natural environment which have a bearing on military planning and operations, while studies involving other items of basic intelligence, such as mineral resources and economic production, are otherwise classified even when the geographic approach is utilized.

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4. Comprehensive area studies, as undertaken within the U. S. defense agencies, require a depth of detail in research that reaches beyond the competency of a single professional group. Fortunately, a rather large reservoir of professional personnel, trained in several fields, is available within our intelligence agencies, so that effective teamwork is possible.

5. The Conselho Brasileiro de Geografia, of the Instituto Brasileiro de Geografia e Estatística, has developed a geographic research institution that has attained a noteworthy reputation. It seems probable that the concepts presented in the reference enclosure result from the recognition given to the work of this institution. Capable professional geographers undoubtedly are available to participate in the work of the proposed Military Geography Section. For an organization the size of the Brazilian Army General Staff, it is entirely possible that this Section could undertake the responsibilities described in the statement.

6. The functions of the Military Geography Section, as set forth by Colonel Ivan Gomes, are not stated with sufficient precision to permit detailed critical comment.

SIGNED

ALLEN W. DULLES
Deputy Director

STATINTL

ORR:D/G: [REDACTED] :mk
30 November 1951

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